

T. APOLEON CHENEY.

March 23, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. POTTER, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred the memorial of T. Apoleon Cheney, of the State of New York, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report :

That it appears from the evidence filed in said case that the petitioner is the grandchild of Caleb Whiting, jr., and great-grandchild of Caleb Whiting, and alleges services of his great-grandfather in the revolutionary war, at Lexington, April 19, 1775, ten days ; also, in the 3d Worcester regiment, as 2d major, commission bearing date February 15, 1776 ; also, captain of 8th company in 3d regiment of line, bearing date April 10, 1778, expedition in Rhode Island, from July 20 to September 10, 1778. He also alleges services of his grandfather in Captain Martin's company, Colonel Ward's regiment, expedition to Rhode Island, under Lieutenant Colonel Tyler, December 8, 1776, one month and fifteen days ; also, in Captain Knapp's company, Colonel Tyler's regiment, expedition to Rhode Island, July 27, 1780, served twelve days, and volunteered in the battle of Bunker Hill. Caleb Whiting died in 1830 ; Caleb Whiting, jr., died in 1808 ; Mrs. Lucy Cheney, the mother of the petitioner, is living, and is the daughter of Caleb Whiting, jr.

It will be seen that the grandfather of the petitioner has been dead for more than fifty years, and that no application was ever made by him, or by any person for him, during his lifetime, for a pension. Nor does it appear that any application for a pension was ever made during the lifetime of Caleb Whiting, the great-grandfather of the petitioner, who died more than thirty years ago. The reason for this is evident. The terms of service of neither the grandfather nor the great-grandfather would have entitled either of them to a pension under any existing law. And the only ground upon which the present application is based is the unfortunate pecuniary circumstances of their descendants.

Were Congress to entertain applications of this nature, and undertake to provide for all the poor and needy whose ancestors have rendered services to the country, however meritorious, the treasury would be unable to meet the demands made upon it; they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.